

this fall of a Beltway World Series between the Nats and the Baltimore Orioles, he should prepare himself to be disappointed!

Mr. President, in all seriousness, we are fortunate to have men and women of Jerry's caliber devote their time and talent to the U.S. Senate. Jerry is an outstanding public servant. While we will miss him—and his trademark suspenders—he certainly has earned a well-deserved retirement and on behalf of the Senate, I thank him for his service and wish him and his family all the best for the future.

REMEMBERING JERRY L. HEDRICK

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, as the ranking member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry L. Hedrick, a lifelong North Carolinian, distinguished public servant, a United States Army veteran, and a leader of distinction at many levels in the American Legion, who died on August 25, 2014, concluding a life of superb and selfless service to the veterans of North Carolina and America. Jerry passed away on the eve of the American Legion's National Convention in Charlotte, NC, an event he had been actively planning for almost until the moment his life ended. There is no doubt in anyone's mind that Jerry put his heart and soul into the Legion's mission throughout his life.

Jerry was born in Lexington, NC a year after the end of World War II and spent his younger, formative years in Davidson County, where he was graduated from Lexington Senior High in 1965, just as the war in Vietnam was escalating. Jerry joined the United States Army in 1966 and was trained as an armor crewman. He was subsequently assigned to Alpha Troop, First Squadron, of the Fourteenth Armored Cavalry Regiment, based in Fulda, Germany. This was in the early years of the Cold War that pitted North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, commanded by the United States, at outposts and in forward bases along the border that divided a free and democratic West Germany from a repressive communist regime in Soviet supported East Germany. The open lowlands around Jerry's base were known then and for the next 25 years as the Fulda Gap, where NATO expected a Soviet invasion of Western Europe would come through. At that time America's attention was turning toward Southeast Asia and the hot war there, but Jerry and his fellow soldiers had a vital mission, one that would continue until the demise of the Soviet Union.

Jerry received an honorable discharge from the Army in 1968 and returned home to North Carolina. Soon after, he joined American Legion Post 8 in Lexington and found work as a mail carrier with the U.S. Postal Service, where he worked faithfully from 1969 until 2001. In the early post-Army years, Jerry somehow found the time amidst all his activities to study and

obtain a business degree from Rowan Technical Community College. Years later, when Jerry was asked what spurred his decision to join the Legion, he simply stated, "I was asked by fellow workers and I wanted to help veterans."

Throughout his over four decades of service to the Legion and to North Carolina's veterans, Jerry Hedrick held almost every leadership position from Post Financial Officer, to Post Adjutant, to Post Commander, and went on to serve as both a Department and District Vice Commander and Commander, as well as rising to National level committees that addressed Americanism, Military Affairs, and International Affairs. Jerry was also the North Carolina Department's representative to the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC and would say in later years that some of his fondest memories were from his time on the National Executive Committee, which is responsible for drafting the annual budget and signing off on the American Legion's spending.

While he devoted much of his life's work to the Legion and to veterans' issues, Jerry Hedrick was also devoted to his wife Marie and to his family, and a prominent figure in his community, through volunteerism for the Moose, Masonic, and Elks Lodges.

When I reflect on the sum total of Jerry's life, I see a man who knew that the calling of service and the value of fellowship were essential elements of the American experience and what truly bind us together. As an advocate for veterans, his legacy is typified in the old saying that the measure of a man is not what he does but what he gives. Jerry lived those words until his last day with us.

I offer his wife Marie and his entire family my deepest condolences. They, all of North Carolina, and this Nation, have lost a lifelong friend, a true gentleman, a stalwart leader for veterans, and a role model for those committed to community and national service.

TRIBUTE TO DR. STORY LANDIS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today I want to recognize a truly exceptional public servant, Dr. Story Landis, who is retiring in a few weeks from the directorship of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke at the National Institutes of Health. I have been fortunate to get to know Dr. Landis during her 11 years as Institute Director. She has testified several times before the committees I chair, the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, always with the poise of a leader at a prestigious national institution, the rigor of a renowned scientist, and the insight of a truly extraordinary pioneer working on the frontiers of our knowledge of the human brain.

Certainly, Dr. Landis has an exemplary pedigree. A graduate of Wellesley College and Harvard University, Dr. Landis came to NIH in 1995 as NINDS Scientific Director, following a distinguished career as a neuroscience researcher and chair of the Neuroscience Department at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. As scientific director, she had the bold vision to stimulate collaborations in brain research across labs from different institutes on the NIH campus and led the planning for a unique national neuroscience research center at NIH. From the time Dr. Landis became NINDS Director in 2003, she worked with me, with the late Senator Spector, and with other NIH Institute Directors to make this center a reality. This spring I was fortunate to be at the NIH campus to help officially dedicate the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center.

I will remember Dr. Landis best for her courage, her ability to bridge gaps, and her passion.

First, her courage. Not many people remember this, but in 2007, Dr. Landis was the first NIH Director to speak publicly in opposition to President Bush's ban on Federal funding of stem cell research. That may not sound like much to us now, but at the time it was a remarkable act of professional integrity and personal courage. The American public was very divided, the scientific community was not unified, and most importantly, she worked for the administration whose policies she was publicly criticizing. She risked her job and her reputation to alert this Senate to the reality that research was being stifled—research with enormous potential to reduce human suffering. Just last week, I read a press report about stem cells being used to decode schizophrenic brains. This Nation is indebted to Dr. Landis for having the courage to speak a hard truth at a critical juncture in our Nation's scientific policy debate.

Second, let me talk about Dr. Landis's ability to bridge gaps. In truth, she has bridged so many divides throughout her career: She reached across institutes in 2005 to establish and develop one of the most effective trans-NIH initiatives in producing the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research and more recently launching the NIH BRAIN Initiative, which will bring together engineers, aging experts, and neuroscientists to transform our understanding of the human brain. She reached across scientific gaps in chairing the NIH Stem Cell Task Force and helping to coordinate and lead pain research efforts across NIH, and she bridged generation gaps in her enthusiastic mentorship, her work on career development, and her support for early-stage investigators.

But the gap I remember best is the divide between scientists and policymakers. I might be telling tales out of school here, but it was Story Landis and Jim Battey who sat with me for